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WorldBriefs

Oil spill in Nigeria

Friends of the Earth Nigeria urges groups to take action in response to an explosion and oil spill at a Shell facility in Ogbodo, Niger Delta on the June 25, 2001.

Shell admitted responsibility for the explosion, which has left an entire community of 150,000 ethnic Ikwere people without water. Noxious fumes have forced evacuations and many have become ill with respiratory problems.

Numerous community members have also lost their livelihoods with fishing equipment being destroyed and farmland and river systems polluted. Shell's response to the disaster has been negligible. See www.foe.org

Severe drought affects nearly 800,000 Hondurans

According to a World Food Program report released in Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, it is estimated that close to 800,000 Hondurans have been affected, and almost 300,000 live in the poorest regions.

The UN Agency said that some 610,000 people in Central America could suffer hardship from food scarcity due to crop losses, and the number of the affected could reach one million.

The report says that the current drought is the most severe natural threat Central America has faced since 1998's Hurricane Mitch.

House approves Arctic Refuge drilling

Aug 2 (ENS) - The U.S. House of Representatives passed an energy bill that would authorize opening a portion of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and natural gas exploration. The controversial legislation would also promote so called clean coal technology, and provide tax breaks for the nuclear power industry.

Ninety-five percent of Alaska's North Slope, which contains the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, is already open to energy exploration. The House bill would open the remaining five percent

"Tonight's House passage of comprehensive, balanced energy legislation is a tribute to President Bush's leadership and a tremendous victory for America, for the economy, and for the environment," said Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham.

The bill is likely to face strong opposition in the Democratically controlled Senate, which has already expressed its intention to

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Keeping the peace?

The "Peaceful Assemblies" Bill and public protest

RIVKAH NISSIM

The State Government is proposing legislation that, if passed, will legitimise the use of violence by Victorian police to disperse people involved in strikes, demonstrations and protests.

The Peaceful Assemblies Bill 2001 is set to replace the old Unlawful Assemblies Processions Act 1958, with legislation that the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Andre Haermeyer, believes is consistent with community expectations and more in keeping with "current practice". Critics of the proposed legislation have cited the treatment of protesters at the World Economic Forum as an example of the kinds of practice the Bill would make legal.

Under the proposed Bill, a police officer of or above the rank of senior sergeant can give a gathering of people which they believe is, or may become, a "riotous assembly", fifteen minutes to disperse before they are entitled to use "reasonable force" to disperse them. A "riotous assembly" is defined as an assembly that involves "unlawful physical violence" or "damage to property". Importantly, the assembly would not have to actually be "riotous" for police to act to disperse it. Their decision to use force would be dependent on their "reasonable belief" that the situation may

become violent, or that damage to property is likely to occur.

This reliance upon the discretion of an individual officer is a cause for concern, as police have been known to demonstrate highly variable understandings of what constitutes violent behaviour. The "reasonableness" of the police's judgement is as subjective a measure as the "reasonable force" they are entitled to exercise, and as such

... the new laws sanction the use of violence, rather than arrest, as a crowd-clearing measure.

would be as impossible to challenge. It also overlooks the reality that it can be the pre-emptive use of force by police, which provokes a violent response from initially peaceful protesters.

The new legislation claims to balance two public rights, the democratic right to protest (which is enshrined in international law), with the rights of members in the rest of the community to "enjoy the natural environment" and "to carry on business". However, if

the increasingly heavy-handed treatment of people demonstrating against the activities of certain corporate citizens "carrying on their business" is anything to go by, it is fairly obvious whose rights take precedence when the two conflict. The Peaceful Assemblies Bill removes several of the measures under the old legislation that protect the rights of people participating in a strike or protest.

It would no longer be necessary for a magistrate or the Chief of Police to "read the riot act" to order demonstrators to disperse, an important safeguard against the arbitrary use of excessive force.

Crucially, the new laws sanction the use of violence, rather than arrest, as a crowd-clearing measure. Police already have an array of charges at their disposal to deal with what they consider to be breaches of the peace, such as "unlawful assembly", "riot" and "affray". The arrest process gives an alleged offender the right to remain silent, to consult a lawyer, and to challenge their charge in

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Ghana fined \$39 million by IMF

ANDREA BOLT

The African country of Ghana has been slapped with a \$39 million (US) fine by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for 'misrepresenting' the state of Ghana's economy.

Ghana Finance Minister Yaw Osafo Maafo said that the penalty was for misinformation given by the previous government for the four-month period August 21st to December 31st, 2000.

Osafo Maafo, speaking on his arrival from the US where he had accompanied President John Kufuor, said the IMF did not heed Ghana's plea for a penalty waiver. The present government took power in January ending 19 years of dictatorship under the corrupt and vicious rule of Jerry Rawlings.

"The IMF rejected our plea on the grounds that under IMF rules, the reporting of inaccurate information attracts a levy on the defaulting country," Osafo-Maafo said.

"A number of African, Caribbean and Pacific countries which were part of the discussions fought on behalf of Ghana for the waiver, but the Fund said waivers on non-observance of the prior action and performance criterion cannot be granted."

Osafo Maafo said Ghana would have to pay the fine in two instalments this year.

Over 30% of people in Ghana live in poverty and 27% of Ghana's children are malnourished. Ghana recently applied to the World Bank and IMF for debt relief, since it is recognised as a heavily indebted poor country. IMF disbursements to Ghana over the past three years amount to about \$285 million.



Many believe that this year's victory for Labor in WA also meant victory for the forests. According to Louise Morris, this is not entirely the case. Story on page 3.

Colombia - Oxy finds no oil in U'Wa land

Occidental Petroleum (Oxy) has stopped drilling at the Siriri field in Colombia (formerly called the Samore bloc) after finding gas and condensates but no oil, a company official said on July 27. Occidental still considers it "possible" that oil may be discovered at the Siriri site, a spokesperson said, but drilling will not resume for at least a year as more seismic studies will probably be needed and the company will have to consider security concerns and the site's highly complicated geological structure.

The Siriri field is located near the Venezuelan border in the 47,000-hectare Gibraltar Basin, about 140 km from Occidental's existing Cano Limon field in eastern Colombia. Exploration at Siriri started in February 2000, and its possible reserves were at first estimated by the company at 1.4 billion barrels. At the time test drilling began, Occidental rated the chances of discovering a commercially viable oil deposit at Siriri to be about 20%. [Reuters 7/27/01]

The Siriri field is located on the traditional land of the U'wa indigenous people, who have been trying to stop the drilling project for nine years with help from international supporters, using nonviolent tactics ranging from shareholder resolutions to civil disobedience.

The latest news came as thousands of U'wa take part in AjReowa, a special time of fasting, meditation, teaching, singing and prayer that lasts from June through August. Their prayers have been focused on driving Oxy away from their land. The U'wa believe that oil is the blood of Mother Earth, and that its extraction kills her. [U'wa Updates 7/28/01]

Article sourced from: *Weekly news update on the Americas*, Issue #600, July 29, 2001. NICARAGUA Solidarity Network of Greater New York

ONLINE MEDIA SITES

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In defence of global humanitarian standards

Year Twelve student Catherine Ryan was first provoked by Peter Costello's opinions on free trade and anti-globalisation protests when he gave a speech at her school, in which he equated the growing popularity of the minor parties with the increasing popularity of the 'soy-latte'. The following is a response to his subsequent address to the Sydney Institute.

CATHERINE RYAN

Anti-globalisation protesters, according to Mr Peter Costello, are hypocritical luddites that wish to seal off Australia from the rest of the world and abolish anything with the word "world" in it, all while continuing to surf the internet and push for agreements on "global" warming. "They think 'global' and act 'global', and protest against globalisation", the Treasurer stated in his Wednesday address to the Sydney Institute, moving to illustrate the apparent hypocrisy of anyone opposing globalisation in its current state.

This terse summary fails to take into account the fact that, at least in my experience, the mainstream of anti-globalisation protest is not inherently opposed to the concept of international trade in itself. The majority is not, as the Treasurer suggests, doing the equivalent of "ranting against the telephone".

Rather, the anti-globalisation movement tends to be concerned about the way in which the world is presently being globalised - that is, chiefly through trade with no humanitarian or democratic standards.

If I were to be an employer in Australia today, there are a number of restrictions and standards

with which I would have to comply. These include a minimum wage, workplace safety acts, maternity leave and a host of other restrictions which I am sure the Treasurer would not contest the necessity of. Furthermore, if aggregate conditions in industries across the nation became abhorrent through lack of governmental monitoring, the government of the day could be called to account through our democratic system.

In the world of global trade and industry, however, this is not the case. With free trade agreements, all that matters is the liquid flow of capital. It's "horses for courses", Mr Costello told us when speaking at my school on Monday the 23rd of July; the World Trade Organisation should deal with the trade stuff, the United Nations with the humanitarian stuff, and each organisation should steer well clear of the other's zone of jurisdiction. Meanwhile, multi-nationals are free to float from trade zone to trade zone, investing and employing where they choose, under workplace standards that they define.

But how do multinationals dictate the terms of business?

Surely governments, be they in developing worlds or OECD countries, have the ultimate authority in these matters?

Yes they do, in theory. But increasingly in the globalised world, the role of a government is to make their respective economy the most attractive for international investment. Nations become 'flowers' that must entice the 'multi-national bees' by tax exemptions and the provision of cheap labour. Rather than representing the people, governments simply become the handmaidens of the investors, dancing to the tune played by the economy, as the reduction of workplace standards becomes a race to the bottom.

A common argument put forward by those selling

Nations become 'flowers' that must entice the 'multi-national bees' by tax exemptions and the provision of cheap labour.

globalisation goes something along the lines of, "without employment by Nike/the Gap/IBM, Third World countries would never develop." This argument is flawed, of course, as a 'developing' nation's luring in of multi-national employers, will often leave its economy stunted rather than nurtured.

Why is this so? Well, one of the most effective ways of luring investors is tax exemption. In order to stay in the intense global competition for foreign investment, many governments, such as those in the Philippines, are forced to allow corporations to

invest for years at a time, with almost total tax exemption. Governments of these countries thus receive inadequate funds for the development of their infrastructure. Civic services - such as sewerage systems - fall into decay, while there is no revenue gained for reinvestment in their economy.

As their economy fails to develop, the attraction of the multi-national 'swallows' must continue, usually by the provision of cheap labour. Wages must drop, and local contractors must do all they can to crush those pesky unions that keep popping up and demanding such crazy things as a living wage and humane working conditions.

Contrary to that implied by Mr Costello, people do not dislike sweatshop labour simply because "expectations are rising".

Globalisation, like most things in the world, is not inherently wrong. What is of concern, however, is the way in which the world

is presently being globalised. The majority of those who are 'anti-globalisation' are not technophobes or xenophobes, attempting to bury their heads in the sands of protectionism. Most understand that, as communication and travel become more efficient, old borders will slowly erode.

This doesn't have to mean that the enforcement of basic human rights will erode with them.

Text of Costello's full address available at: <http://treasurer.gov.au>

Italian government 'reassigns' police officials

ANDREA BOLT

Three law enforcement officials were transferred from their posts on Thursday August 2 in the first action taken against police after last month's Group of Eight (G8) summit, during which police killed one protester and injured over 200 more.

The decision was announced late Thursday by Interior Minister Claudio Scajola, who himself was the focus of a parliamentary confidence vote over allegations the police used excessive force against protesters. Scajola, who is in charge of the Italy's police forces, easily survived the Senate confidence vote.

Ansoino Andreassi, the deputy chief of police in charge of the G8, Arnaldo La Barbera,

head of the anti-terrorism department, and Francesco Colucci, police superintendent of Genoa (the host city of the G8 summit), were all reassigned from their posts. Their new posts were not announced.

Police shot and killed one 23-year-old demonstrator during the protests that brought over 100,000 people onto the streets of Genoa.

Police have been particularly criticized for a pre-dawn raid on a school that was housing demonstrators. Over 60 individuals were taken to hospital after the raid. In addition, those that were arrested in the course of the police action have accused the police of torture

both during the raid, and within prison.

Allegations of police brutality from officials and demonstrators from Germany, Britain and other European countries have embar-

rassed Premier Silvio Berlusconi's new government and led to calls by the Italian opposition for Scajola's own resignation.



Italian riot police. Image sourced from www.indymedia.org

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reject efforts to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling.

"While we are profoundly disappointed that the House turned its back on the pristine Arctic Refuge and the will of the American people, we are optimistic as the fight heads to the Senate," said Carl Pope, executive director of the conservation group The Sierra Club. "Drilling in the Arctic Refuge won't address our nation's energy needs or make a dent in gas prices."

China tightens internet control

Aug 1 - Human Rights Watch (HRW) report says that tightening Chinese government controls on the Internet are having a chilling effect on academic freedom, commercial exchanges, and ordinary communication.

"This is one area where human rights and corporate interests should coincide. More people will use Internet services, e-mail, and related technologies if they don't have to worry about getting arrested."

Sidney Jones, Asia director of Human Rights Watch called on media and computer giants underwriting the 2008 Olympic games, as well as other Internet companies doing business in China to work toward lifting these controls. Chinese authorities have issued more than sixty sets of regulations to govern Internet content since the government began permitting commercial Internet accounts in 1995. The HRW report details many of those regulations, describes recent Chinese efforts to police Internet cafes, and summarizes the cases of several people put on trial or sentenced to prison for downloading or posting politically sensitive material on the web.

"As the Olympic momentum builds, Chinese websites are going to proliferate," said Jones. "The corporate sponsors are going to have to choose between helping China open up by getting these controls removed, or abetting repression by giving the government the technology for Internet censorship. China's entry into the World Trade Organization should also give companies an incentive to press to lift these restrictions."

HIV/AIDS cases rising quickly in Russia

The rate of HIV/AIDS infection in Russia and the rest of Eastern Europe is growing faster than anywhere else in the world, the Washington Post reports. According to UNAIDS, nearly 50,000 Russians have tested positive for HIV since January of this year, an increase of 60% in just six months. Registered cases with the Russian Health Ministry number 129,261, but "specialists" say there could actually be as many as 750,000 cases.

The number of infected Russians was just one-third that of the United States in 1999 according to UNAIDS figures. However, according to the Post, the "escalation" of HIV/AIDS cases in Russia "might only grow worse." The Post reports that "until now, the infection has been largely confined to intravenous drug users" but some doctors believe it is "about to break out into the general population" through sexual contact.

"If you just extrapolate from what we have seen in the last decade, it's

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How the West was won - almost

LOUISE MORRIS

There seems to be a widely held belief that the recent use of old growth forest protection as an election-winning platform by the Western Australian Labor party will mean salvation for the diverse old growth forests of the state.

At the risk of bursting a few bubbles, this is not the case.

While many of the 'icon blocks' of forests have been included in reserve systems under the new government, glaring omissions have been made with regard to the jarrah forests of the state, which are biologically more diverse. On the aesthetic level, however jarrah forests are not as impressive as the tall blondes of the forest world, the Karri, therefore have not quite garnered the sort of mainstream support from notable fashion folk and other people in the community.

It is in the jarrah forests that some of the worst forestry and land management practices take place, in areas that are already facing a salinity problem and are the last remaining habitat of some of the most endangered species in West Australia. The jarrah forests are having to deal with the onslaught of unsustainable logging practices, large scale bauxite mining and of course clearing for development, as well as the growing problem of dieback fungus. In the days before wholesale mechanised logging, dieback in the jarrah forests did not pose a threat because large scale disturbance and soil movement did not occur. It is no coincidence that the spread of dieback in jarrah forests follows the logging path almost precisely.

With the new state government riding high on environmental credentials, the public sense of security regarding the fate of WA's forests are at an all time high. The rather disappointing facts however are that the Labor government is working under the same definitions, maps, information and advice that the Liberal government were. The definition of what constitutes old growth forest is also shady - excluding forest that has had any form of disturbance in the past 100 years, whether that be a tree hand felled in the 1920s, or a horse and cart track put through at the beginning of last century.

Under Labor, forests that are at risk of dieback infection are still declared 'unprotectable' and therefore logged as quickly as possible, lest the valuable timber become infected and go to waste. It is under these same guidelines that wet soil logging is still allowed to occur in jarrah forests, that are at risk of infection or are showing visible signs of die back affected trees. It is in the wetter times of the year that die back is most likely to spread as it is activated by moisture, soil disruption and aeration.

In March of this year, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) handed down a report regarding the logging and mining practices occurring in the jarrah forests. While it was admitted in the report that problems were evident in the management of 'jarrah resources', it was recommended that the current system of management implemented by the Forest Products Commission, should be allowed a further three year trial period to test its effectiveness and safeguard against future problems.



In the trunk of a huge Tingle. Photo courtesy of The Wilderness Society



Nell the Numbat visits parliament as part of the WA forest campaign. Photo courtesy of The Wilderness Society

In a media statement from the Western Australian Forest Alliance, spokesperson Peter Robertson said that 'The EPA recommendations are more about facilitating the industrial exploitation of dieback susceptible forests, than about protecting the forests from dieback'.

Obviously the problems that

have been encountered in the past by the conservation movement in WA are far from over. The use of Disease Risk Area (DRA) regulations forbidding non-industry people, AKA the public, from accessing state forests, whether it be in cars, on bikes or on foot, are still being enforced by the Forest Products Commission and the Labor party. Essentially leaving the jarrah forests where they were before the election of February this year... in a lot of trouble.

While I have not painted an overly optimistic picture of the current situation in the WA forests, acknowledgement must be made that great advances have occurred in WA with regard to public support. There has been an amazing groundswell of public outrage at the way in which our forests were and are being mismanaged and shipped overseas at bargain basement prices, thereby inducing the Labor party to undertake the election strategy it did.

With both good and bad lessons learnt over time, hopefully the campaign for Western Australia's old growth forests can continue to grow in strength and be a reference point for others across the country. The challenge now is to keep the issue of old growth forest and their exploitation in the headlines and public consciousness, while not allowing the media to label those speaking out as whinging greenies who are never satisfied.

Japan sends Hiroshima Day hopes

KITANO SUSUMU

The following is a message from anti-nuclear activists in Japan, in support of Hiroshima Day actions throughout Australia on August 5th.

This is the 56th summer since atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Japan, the only country to experience the devastation of nuclear war, should be leading the world towards nuclear abolition. However, the government, while rejecting nuclear weapons, has actually promoted nuclear energy domestically in the name of "peaceful use".

There are 51 nuclear power plants functioning throughout Japan at the moment. They are producing spent nuclear fuel everyday, even right now. The Japan Nuclear Cycle Development Institute (JNC) - the main agent of Japan's nuclear energy policy - has been pushing to use reprocessed plutonium in fast breeder reactors. The use of plutonium as a fuel is highly dangerous.

The project became stalled however, when a sodium leak occurred at Monju - the first fast breeding reactor - in 1995. Another new type reactor project was also abandoned the next year. This time it was announced

as being due mainly to financial reasons. By 1996, it became clear that the plutonium recycle project as a part of the national energy policy had failed.

Despite the obvious failure, the JNC is still hanging onto the plutonium cycle project. It is currently promoting the production of plutonium from nuclear waste in the facility constructed at Rokkasho town, Aomori prefecture, after the reprocessing contract with Britain and France ends. The government has also been pushing for the plu-thermal programme or MOX. This process involves the loading of mixed uranium-plutonium oxide fuel into some existing reactors.

However, in the town of Kariha, where the nuclear reactor for the plu-thermal programme was planned, there has been opposition from the town's local residents. This has not been the only problem with the programme however. There have been problems with imperfect MOX fuel which, as well as causing the recent nuclear accident at Tokai, has completely destroyed the public trust in the programme.

Recently there have been some new developments, which are putting pressure on the government to change the national energy policies. While the plu-thermal programme is now facing some problems, there have been many alternatives put for-

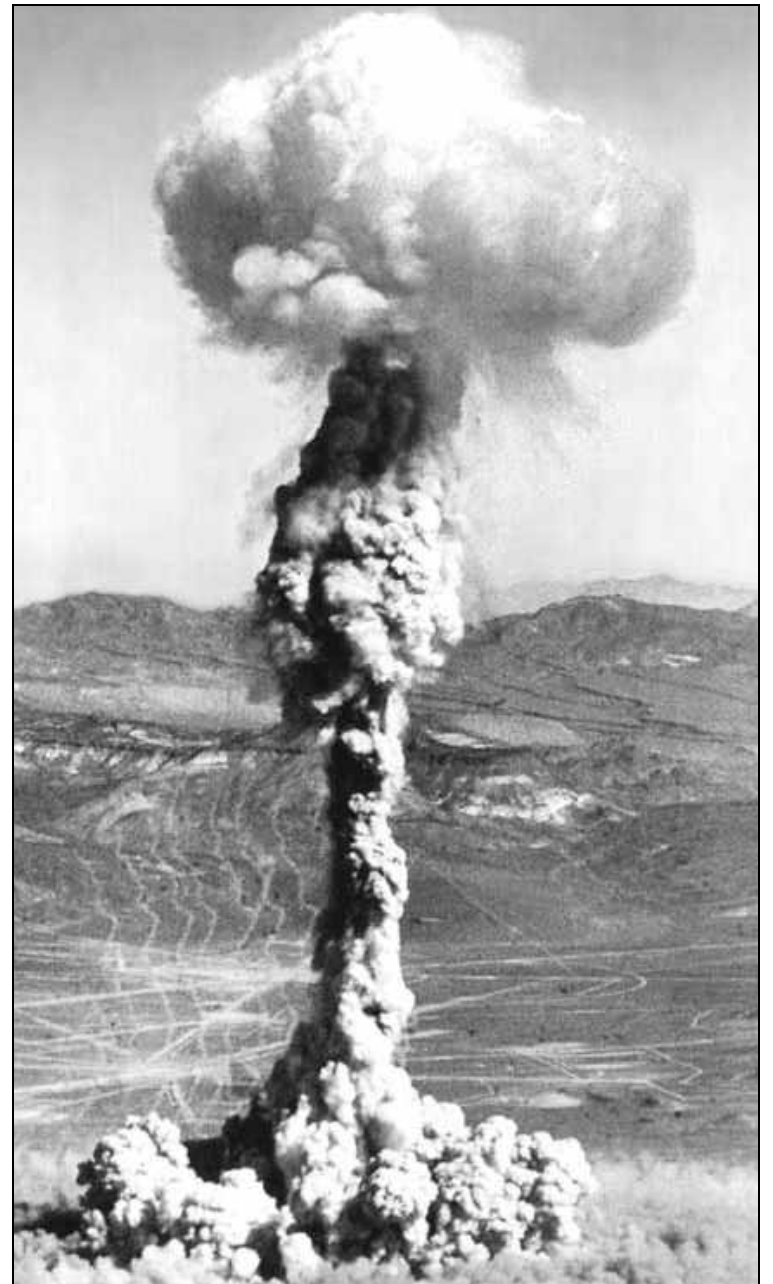
ward by local movements against the current energy policies. The electric power companies are said to be wavering, because of the high cost associated with the reproduction of plutonium fuel as well as of the deregulation of the electricity market.

Then, why is the Japanese government still pursuing plutonium related power resources? Some would say Japan might be secretly preparing for nuclear armament. I am afraid to say that there is no evidence or reason to deny such a claim.

Now we hear the Koizumi cabinet claiming for "reform without sanctuary". There has been no reform in the nuclear cycle policies announced, and there will not be.

We need international solidarity for nuclear issues all around the world. We need to abolish nuclear weapons and cease the reproduction of plutonium and its shipping, the expansion of the nuclear reactor construction business, and the exploitation of uranium in areas like Australia. We need solidarity in order to stop Japan's dangerous future path as well as to promote abolition of any type of nuclear use around the world.

We pray from Japan for everlasting peace and the success of the Hiroshima Day Rally.



Howard makes honorary appearance in WA

SARITAH

Early on Friday July 27th, a crowd of education, environmental, indigenous, community, refugee and feminist activists began to gather outside Notre Dame University in Fremantle, Western Australia, where Prime Minister John Howard was to be awarded an honorary doctorate in community service from the university. A broad range of speakers addressed the crowd, including Nyoongah Elder Ken Colbung, who in the spirit of 'DIY' announced himself Prime Minister of Australia to a roar of approval from the crowd. The Howard government's drive to privatise and corporatise higher education was the major issue raised by NUS State Education Officer Emma Wynn, with public universities suffering a \$1 billion loss in funding since 1996. Up-front fees have also been introduced, whilst income support, namely the Common Youth Allowance and Abstudy, has been cut, resulting in decreased access to

education for working class, regional and indigenous students. Other speakers included Elena Jeffreys of WA Greens, Julia Perkins from the Aceh Solidarity Group and Luke from the Socialist Alliance. A large crowd of media had gathered by the time the parliamentary vehicle carrying the Prime Minister arrived at the entrance to the complex at around 10am. There was no comment from the Prime Minister however, who moved from the car to the building in a matter of seconds. According to some who attended the cere-

mony inside, the drumming and chanting drowned out a majority of the speeches, including the Prime Minister's. Though Mr Howard never did receive the symbolic (dis)honorary certificate that protestors had prepared for him, a point was clearly made - that there are many groups and individuals representing a wide range of the community who do not feel represented by the current government, and are willing to face a windy, wintry Fremantle morning in order to say so.



The (dis)honorary doctorate prepared by protestors for Mr Howard. Photo by Saritah

Big profits in potato retail - none in growing them

LIAM CRANLEY

Four hundred Tasmanian potato farmers assembled outside the McCains potato processing plant in Hobart on Monday July 30th, to publicise the impact corporate buying power and low prices are having on their industry. Many brought their tractors along, encircling the plant, but not blockading it. Although they certainly had the means to stop all traffic into the plant, that wasn't their intention - yet.

Farmers have warned Australia's processing giants, McCains and JR Simplot, that they will not continue to supply potatoes at current prices - they can't afford to. Tasmanian growers have voted unanimously to boycott negotiations over next season's supply contracts unless they get an extra \$30 a tonne. Victorian and South Australian growers are set to go the same way, and growers around the world have pledged similar action for similar reasons.

Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association's Potato Council chairman Max McKenna said from his West Gawler farm: "I have been potato farming for 40 years and this is the toughest it has been in all that time. The price we are asking for to make spud farming worthwhile will equate to

less than one cent on each bag of chips at the fast food outlet." Local farmers currently get less than 4c from a \$1.80 serve of McDonalds fries.

One tonne of potatoes now brings less than \$200, compared to \$212 ten years ago. While prices have been falling, the price of inputs such as fuel, fertilizer and labour have been steadily increasing. Some growers admit that there was overproduction last year; but one year doesn't explain a 10 year slide in price.

With 80 cents in every dollar made selling fries estimated as profit, where is the profit going? Growers point to processors JR Simplot and McCains foods, dominant both in Australia and globally, and to retailers such as Coles/Myer and McDonalds, both of which continue to post profits in the billions. The centralised buying power of these few major corporations has forced prices down, to the point now where farmers can't make ends meet.

The 'efficiencies' of a market that drives the producers out of business, while the middlemen make a fortune is one for the spin doctors to explain. But if farmers hold their position, stand by for long queues as 16 year-old McStaff try to explain why fries are off the menu.

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going to be a disaster. It has the potential to become a huge tragedy," says Armin Fidler, European health care sector manager for the World Bank. Critics cite drug addiction, which has risen twelve-fold, as a cause. According to the Post, the Russian government says that dirty needles have caused 80% to 90% of HIV infections in the past 10 years.

Fighting HIV/AIDS in Russia "has frustrated some in the West," according to the Post, because of "Russian culture and prejudice." Although groups such as Doctors Without Borders, George Soros's Open Society Institute, the NIH, World Bank and the G8 Summit have "initiated programs intended to increase prevention and education [Russia] historically has been suspicious of outside help" and has shown "reluctance" to accept the efforts.

The World Bank's Fidler said, "The authorities and the population at large are not at all alarmed at the present time because it's early in the epidemic. That dynamic is what really worries us because if the epidemic remains unchecked - and we have every indication that it is unchecked because not much is being done - then we will have an explosion in the years to come." But Russian authorities say they "do understand the seriousness" of the disease and are taking steps, including "providing HIV-infected babies with medication," the Post reports (Baker, Washington Post, 7/29). www.kaisernetwork.org

Jubilee beyond 2000

PETER HODGE

Jubilee Australia is a campaign group focused on cancelling the foreign debt of the world's 52 poorest countries. To coincide with the G8 summit in Genoa, The group staged a funeral march between the US, French and Italian consulates in St Kilda Road, Melbourne. The demonstrators carried small coffins and crosses, to symbolise the estimated 19,000 children who die each day as a result of the debt crisis.

Peter Hodge recently spoke with Bill Walker of World Vision and Jubilee Australia.

Peter: Tony Blair, Peter Costello and many other prominent politicians have been at pains to highlight the violence of demonstrators and pour scorn on their agenda at summits like the G8. They suggest that the protesters are trying to halt the very processes that will drag people out of poverty. Is this just spin doctoring?

Bill: I think a lot of it is spin doctoring... I think it is a scapegoat, a convenient excuse to ignore the issues that the majority of people are raising peacefully.

P: Critics of the debt relief campaigns have suggested that not all poor countries are affected by debt and that without addressing such issues as unfair trade, debt relief is meaningless. Is it time for Jubilee Australia to broaden its agenda?

B: It could be. It's important to point out that some of our critics like Jim Wolfensohn at the World Bank are suggesting that we drop our Drop the Debt campaign and that we actually move to a campaign on trade. Many of the organisations that have supported Jubilee over quite some years would be quite active in fair trade campaigns. We have a person on our campaign team who works on trade pretty well exclusively and other supporting organisations are involved in trade. The beauty of Jubilee was that it did have a very clear focus, and so that's one of the dilemmas we have to grapple with in terms of the future of the campaign...

P: How difficult has it been to maintain public interest in the debt issue beyond 2000?

B: It certainly has been difficult because of the spin that has been on the media stories... The way that creditors and those involved in the Heavily Indebted Poor Country (HIPC) initiative have been presenting the debt problem... as if it

was solved or on the way to being solved... as if we just have to wait long enough and a solution will appear. That is not what we have seen. Of the 23 countries [receiving initial debt relief], 22 got initial debt relief by the end of 2000; there has only been one country since then that has reached its decision point... There's a whole group of countries that are being seen as in the 'too hard' basket...

P: In theory, debt relief should enable countries to spend more on sectors such as health and education. In practice, has this happened?

B: There are only a couple of countries that have received final debt relief, but in all there are 23 countries receiving some form of debt relief through the HIPC initiative. Some of those only started to receive debt relief a matter of months ago... For countries like Uganda, Mozambique, Guyana and a number of other countries that have actually reached their completion point, we've been able to see more clearly the sort of impact it can have. In Uganda the percentage of children receiving primary schooling has doubled, I think to about 7 million. In Mozambique there is increased resources going into the education sector, water and sanitation. What might be more significant in the longer term than the actual money flowing through is the extent to which, in some countries, civil society is actually being empowered to hold governments accountable.

P: What more could Australia do to further the cause of debt relief?

B: Australia is a significant player in the Asian Development Bank, so it certainly could be active in looking at the debt problems of some countries that are either in the HIPC group, or those that are just outside. But as long as we use [current] arbitrary economic criteria, ratios of debt service to exports and so on, then they will tend to be ignored. We are also not an insignificant player in the IMF and the World Bank. In discussions with them they have said to us [they] are doing a lot... When we ask for evidence, we don't get any. The British government has taken a much more active approach in terms of debt relief, in saying even if we don't stop collecting the debt we'll put it in a trust fund and we'll actually return it to the country at an appropriate

time.

P: One of the major achievements of Jubilee 2000 was to shift the public stance of many world leaders, who came to acknowledge the need for debt relief. What are the major obstacles that prevent words being translated into action?

B: The basic problem is that world leaders cry poor when it comes to significant debt relief. The major problem is really multilateral debt, because only a third of the debt owed by HIPC countries to the IMF and World Bank will be cancelled after the HIPC scheme. There's a lack of will by the major shareholders in those... Jubilee in the UK has done some research showing that the IMF, World Bank and [other] multilateral development banks could actually cancel 100% of the debt without affecting their financial status as institutions.

P: What level of awareness is there in Australia of economic justice issues?

B: It's not a high level of awareness, but one of the things we've certainly achieved [is] to raise the level of awareness of unpayable debt. There's an increased awareness of economic issues... Although it's not as high as it might be I think it has increased over recent years. The other thing I suppose is the protests [have] drawn attention to some of the economic issues and it has created a new interest in that area.

P: Do you think the mainstream media is coming on board with these issues?

B: The mainstream media are occasionally helpful to us, but I think they're mainly an obstacle because they tend to peddle the prevailing economic views, which are hostile to issues of economic justice...

P: How can the Commonwealth be a force for debt relief?

B: CHOGM (Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting - to be held in Brisbane this October) is not a decision-making forum for debt relief and debt cancellation, but it's unusual in that it is a very large group (53 countries) of both creditor and debtor countries... It is a unique forum in which to discuss the issue of debt and what the next steps are in terms of debt relief. It certainly won't make decisions about debt being cancelled.



Nobody misses the bus - Drop the Debt protestors in Genoa. Photo sourced from www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk

Keeping the peace? - continued from page 1

court. This legislation gives a person who is considered part of what police deem a "riotous assembly", a warning and fifteen minutes to disperse before they find themselves dispersed forcibly. This clause is intended to cover police in circumstances where they are too "heavily outnumbered" to arrest and charge people. So, for the sake of expediency and the conservation of police resources, the law con-

done the use of violence against those who are deemed to be behaving violently.

The timing of the introduction of this Bill is notable, given that it has appeared soon after the release of the Victorian Ombudsman's findings from the inquiry into allegations of police violence at s11. The Ombudsman's report effectively vindicated the actions of the police, finding the use of batons

and horses to charge a crowd of unarmed protesters within the parameters of "reasonable force". The Peaceful Assemblies Bill goes one important step further by codifying such tactics in law.

This move by the Victorian Government is consistent with a national trend towards legislation which attempts to similarly preserve what governments consider the "safety" and "order" of an

undefined general "public" from the activities of other members of the public. The most extreme example is last year's Commonwealth "Shoot to Kill" Bill, introduced in the lead-up to the Sydney Olympics, allowing the military to be called out against civilians in a situation of "domestic unrest" - conceivably, a mass demonstration. Such measures, supposedly intended to protect cit-

izens' rights, infringe upon another fundamental democratic right: the right to publicly express an opinion without the risk of being beaten, run over, or shot in the process.

The deadline for public submissions on the Peaceful Assemblies Bill has been extended to 31 August 2001. For more information go to: www.justice.vic.gov.au

Possum habitat threatened

JASON GIBSON

The Yarra Valley Branch of the Australian Greens, and local environment group, the Yarra Ranges Environment Coalition (YREC) have expressed dismay and extreme disappointment over the realignment of the Big Creek Road at Starlings Gap. The Department of Natural Resources and the Environment (DNRE) did not consult with the public in relation to this issue, despite the fact that the area is extremely popular for bushwalkers and people visiting the famous Ada Tree in nearby forest.

The road also cuts through an area of old growth forest near Powelltown that is renown amongst naturalists for its significant environmental values, including the endangered Sooty Owl, the regionally endangered Yellow-bellied Glider and Leadbeater's Possum.

Jim Romagnesi, YREC member and the Australian Greens' candidate for the Federal seat of McEwen, says that acts such as this are simply unacceptable. "This is significant forest in so many respects, both on environmental and social grounds. Yet the DNRE goes ahead with this type of destruction without taking into consideration the views of bushwalkers or people living within local communities".

Mr Romagnesi also stated that Powelltown residents and bushwalkers have been complaining directly to him about the clearing of the forest, which in his opinion is primarily aimed at widening this section of Big Creek Road to accommodate Double B log trucks. These trucks are twice as long as ordinary logging trucks and enable more timber to be carted out of the region's native forests and water catchments.

"At the very least the DNRE should be honestly and openly informing the local community as to why this disastrous act was conducted" said Mr Romagnesi.

Fair School Wear campaign calls for uniform ethics

JOHN DAVIS

FairWear, fast becoming a household name among consumers, have stepped up their campaign in the fight to end unjust working conditions for textile workers with the recent launch of their Fair School Wear Campaign.

Created in 1996 in response to the growing exploitation of textile workers and their families both in developed and developing countries, FairWear has been particularly vocal in demanding companies create and adhere to a Homeworkers Code of Practice. It has also developed key strategies attempting to educate and empower consumers to demand goods created under ethical labour practices and humanitarian working conditions.

While high profile campaigns such as the ongoing struggle against Nike bring these issues to the fore, it is perhaps through consumer education and the implementation of 'Sweat-Free'

labels that the greatest advances are being made.

15 year old Allegra, a FairWear activist and supporter commented, "As students we learn about social justice and want to put this learning into practice. By supporting the Fair School Wear Campaign we are helping to stamp out exploitative \$2 an hour wages and ensuring that our uniforms are made by fairly paid workers."

So it was on 7th August outside Parliament House, Melbourne, FairWear launched its Fair School Wear Campaign. The campaign aims to ensure that Outworkers making Victorian school uniforms, in both the State and Private sectors, are fairly paid by insisting their suppliers and manufacturers have signed and are accredited to the Outworkers Code of Practice thereby carrying the 'No Sweat Shop' label.

"Schools aim to educate students to be informed and ethical citizens. We are asking our school suppliers to sign and become accredited

to the Code. This is our guarantee of wage justice for outworkers," continued Allegra.

Even before the official launch of the campaign in Victoria, two uniform manufacturers, Qualitops and Poppets, have already signed up to the Code and will soon be carrying the 'No Sweat Shop' label.

FairWear Co-Ordinator, Pamela Curr, sees this as indicative of the atmosphere within which clothing companies must begin to operate if their brands are to remain viable choices for discerning consumers

"Schools expect an ethical standard and students are demanding it. Companies like Qualitops and Poppets are value adding to their product by complying with ethical standards. It is in the interests of the clothing industry to respond to the consumer demand from school communities from an ethical standard guaranteeing that their uniforms are made under fair and just conditions," she said.



Where are we heading? Image by BIC

Content synergies

JASON GIBSON

In mid-June of this year the Seven Network and PMP Communications made a deal that went largely unnoticed. The arrangement gives the Seven Network a half share in PMP's magazine publishing and distribution business, as well as 20 percent stake in PMP itself. While both of these players are less powerful than some of their competitors, the deal marks a further concentration of power and content production.

PMP Communications, our second largest magazine publisher, produces around 30% of the major magazine titles in Australia. Kerry Packers Publishing and Broadcasting Limited leads

the market with an interest in approximately 40% share of our most popular magazine titles. Although cross-media ownership laws prohibit individual proprietors from owning more than 15% of both television and newspapers in the same market, it does not prevent television companies buying into magazine print. Thus both the Seven and Nine networks now have the ability to cross-promote their content across mediums.

The Seven Network deal signifies an ongoing process of merging, industry convergence and content synergies. This type of limited and confined competition offers little new for the 'consuming' public.

Ninjas do it pirate style

JEAN POOLE

If time travellers ever get frequent flyer points, Ninja Tune record label overseers and Cold Cut members Matt Black and Jon More deserve to be amongst the first to nab freebies. Jean Poole goes under the Ninja radar to report on their latest future farming: Piratedtv.net.

Matt Black pitches it as "DIY psychedelic political interactive streaming zentertainment". What you get with PirateTV is Coldcut and friends jamming LIVE experimental DJ and video sessions most nights of the week, UK time, from their SpaceLab studio.

Streaming media is simply playing sound or video in real time as it is transferred to your computer, rather than having to download the entire file before being able to play

it. So if you think about current bandwidth, the average 56k modem, you can see those Ninjas are really stretching it.

A typical PirateTV streaming session involves trying to squeeze in beats, audiovisual scratching, political and archival video footage, online chatting between performers, technicians & viewers, and even jamming over the net using resrocket.com software.

Check the recent guest list that you could have been chatting to online: Clinton, Youth, Mixmaster Morris, Kid Koala, Derrick May, Carl Cox, Laurent Garnier, Suburban Knight, Pure Science, Radiohead and, of course, ColdCut, assorted Ninjas and others tuned in from around the world.

PirateTV feedback has been generally good and positive, reckons Engin, a resident Ninja

involved with PirateTV from its first test cast. Engin has been working in his own studio for about 10 years and for the last few alongside ColdCut helping out with editing loops etc. He currently handles the Wednesday pirate stream, some of the PirateTV mail, and makes music for the succinct site, ambient.fm.

"People are quite turned on by the content they see and we have forged a lot of links through this. A good variety of people as well. Like, some people tune in because they want to be kept informed and others just really love the beats."

While the future of music distro has the major labels pissin their pants, and finds Chuck D wrestling Metallica about computer users swapping Mp3s online, the Ninjas have been busy carving a niche in the streaming pie of the not too distant future - when bandwidth is less of an issue.

Nothing disappears without a trace

ROBERT REID

Robert Reid, Artistic Director of Theatre in Decay and member of The Theatre Network Victoria Steering Committee addresses the contributing factors and possible antidotes to theatre's disappearing audience.

For the ten years I have been making theatre, the industry has been in a growing state of crisis. Lack of communication between artists, the shrivelling of the funding teat, the rapid die-off of subscribers and a dwindling audience base - all are symptoms of a malaise in the theatre industry that everyone can feel but no-one can accurately put a name to. Time and again we are told that the Australian public feels theatre is "too long, too boring" - that the audience is disappearing. It's my contention that, far from disappearing, the audience is simply going somewhere else.

The general opinion among theatre-makers is that audience is being lost to Hollywood movies, Reality TV and the Internet. This may be so, but prompts me to ask: why? I believe that the answer is simple, if hard to swallow. Theatre simply does not want an audience.

Which is not to say that the artists who make theatre don't want people to see their work, but that the predominant mode of performance that we have come to expect from, and accept as, theatre, is an exclusionist one. A form that requires the audience to be 'witness' to the event - to be separate from it.

The heart of this issue is architectural. Traditional theatre buildings such as the Victorian Arts Centre and The Merlyn are tailored to outmoded ideas of cultural excellence and the elegance of class - not comfort. This is largely to do with Theatre Foyer culture. In plush surroundings trimmed with red carpet, the cliques of minor celebrities gather in small, self-congratulatory packs, wine in hand.

Compare this snob culture to venues like La Mama, where you are served coffee by the fire and are invited to stay and chat with the actors after the show. Or companies like Lunchtime Theatre where the actors serve you soup and bread before performing, or the Storeroom where audience and performers frequently congregate post-performance in the Parkview Hotel below, to drink and celebrate together.

The architecture of the traditional "black box" style of theatre unavoidably builds separatism into almost all shows performed therein. Actors in their own separate space find the audience distant, excluded from the event by the harsh line dividing stage and stalls, performers and audience. Why should we be expected to sit for the duration, in the dark, all facing forward in rank and file, keeping silent? It's a format reminiscent of high school detention and Sunday morning gospel sermons. Little wonder an evening of theatre seems more like punishment, when the theatre demands



audiences be seen and not heard.

In contrast, performances by Aardvark Theatre and others have turned to pubs and public places as alternative venues. Places where the audience is free to get up and move, talk to their friends and even answer back. This tends to breed a tougher type of theatre illusion. But in my experience there is nothing an audience loves so much as seeing a skilful actor take a chance interruption - bottles being dumped outside the venue, loud rock music from the pub below - and successfully incorporate it into the performance.

While theatre remains exclusionist and alienating towards its audience box office, numbers will continue to diminish. It simply makes no sense to ask people to pay four times the cost of a latest release movie, to be witness to an event that they are not a part of.

Theatre audiences are not disappearing, they are just going where they feel wanted. Nothing disappears without a trace.

Taking to whitewashing

NATHAN

Perhaps it's a new direction in culture jamming. Maybe its just another group of radicals tired of 24 / 7 corporate images invading every aspect of their lives. Whitewash, a highly unpredictable, autonomous and industrious collection of advert activists have been randomly targeting billboard advertising, offensive or not, and whiting it out.

Leaving nothing but a blank canvas in

their wake, Whitewash reclaim public space and seem to offer in its place nothing but a little thinking space.

So far, billboards on train platforms at Melbourne's Caulfield and South Yarra stations, as well as several others in inner city locations, have been "erased" by Whitewash. The group provide no indication as to the inspiration behind, or the intent of, their campaign. It is difficult to tell if this is graffiti, an art project, or a group of vigilante dentists secretly

conspiring to sell more toothpaste.

This targeting of corporate advertising is reminiscent of the work of Malvern station's resident billboard-liberator phuc.it.up, the original billboard liberators BUGA UP and much of the international culture jamming work on display at adbusters.org.

For regularly updated displays of Australia's liberating artforms from the streets see www.cleansurface.org



Random Whitewash billboards provide some thinking space for those on train platforms

Clicks and Cuts: media news

Italy: Police Chiefs Fired After G8 Violence

Three police chiefs responsible for security at the Genoa G8 summit last month have been ordered to leave their posts by the Berlusconi government. Widespread allegations of police brutality are reported by the BBC to have been upheld by an internal Interior Ministry inquiry.

Meanwhile international media organisations that covered the violence have refused to hand over their footage to the authorities. Photographers said they feared that they would become the target of protesters if they handed material to prosecutors. Aiden White, president of the International Federation of Journalists, based in Brussels, said: "For the demonstrators, journalists will be increasingly identified as part of the problem rather than as professionals who try to record what is happening. And this is very dangerous." Dennis Redmont, head of AP in Rome, said photographers in Genoa had been attacked by demonstrators and had refused to wear green identifying aprons distributed by the local branch of the Italian national journalists' association. But he added: "We might give the pictures without identifying who took them."

India: Murdoch Snaps Up Indya.com Portal

Star Network, owned by Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation, has bought the majority of consumer internet portal indya.com. Star has invested \$150 million in 20 dot-coms across Asia offering local-language content.

"We started out with 37 percent. Now we have nearly all of it," boasted Gary Walrath, Vice-President of Star Group. News Corp. recently bought stakes in Hong Kong's renren.com, the Chinese portal Netease and the Indian auction site Baazee. But the company's entry into the Indian market has suffered a number of setbacks, with Star recently ending its partnership with Zee TV, India's largest private television broadcaster, leaving News Corp's BskyB satellite-channel strategy in disarray. News Corp. launched the channel in 1997 before getting the go-ahead from the Indian government, which eventually denied it permission to broadcast.

Indonesia: Campaign Group Protests New Press Ministry

The Committee to Protect Journalists has spoken out over plans to re-commission Indonesia's Information Ministry, which gained notoriety under former president Suharto. It reminded the new president, Megawati Sukarnoputri, that "the abolition of press controls in Indonesia in 1999 was one of the most important political reforms undertaken in recent years. One of the tests of any democratic country is its commitment to guaranteeing freedom of the press, particularly during times of political transition when all people must be permitted to present dissenting views."

CPJ urged the president to ensure publicly that the new administration would not take any steps to curtail the hard-won freedoms of the Indonesian press.

United States: Web Users Losing Interest In "Old Media"

According to a survey by Content Intelligence, 24 percent of U.S. Internet users have cancelled subscriptions to general news magazines since going online. Business, special interest and entertainment magazines, among others, have experienced this increase in cancelled subscriptions. The study also finds that U.S. Net users are showing less interest in other media, and that nine percent, or approximately 10 million households, will have a broadband connection by the end of 2001, rising to almost 30 percent of households by 2004.

ART:CULT

Subversive Goya etchings challenging the 1800's Spanish order and Noel Counihan's depictions of the working class in 1940's Australia exhibit alongside other artists in **ART: THE ALTERNATIVE TRADITION**, demonstrating Art History's often disregarded thread of cutting social commentary. At Melbourne's Counihan Gallery (233 Sydney Rd, Brunswick) until Sept 2.

In his portal-magnifier installation *Sense of Place*, **PETER BLOCK** rejects lingering ideas that still view Australian nationalism as a blend of bronzed-bodied beach scenes and strong connections with the 'mother country', Great Britain. It's showing at Melbourne's Linden Gallery (Acland St, St. Kilda) until Aug 19.

TRACEY MOFFATT declined an invitation to be the Sydney Olympics' official photographer. Instead she found a fascination with the quandary of finishing fourth in a race, and set about capturing the expressions of those place-winners by photographing them on her TV screen. The series is finally being publicly exhibited at Sydney's Roslyn Oxley 9 Gallery (Soudan Lane, Paddington) until early September.

SERENADE is the story of a girl's hardships being born into on a Central Australian Christian mission to an Aboriginal mother and Afghan father. It screens as a suitable fundraising film for GRAMYA WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE in Andhra Pradesh, India, working to assist women in poverty away from the baby trafficking trade. Only one screening in Melbourne, Como Cinemas (Toorak Rd, South Yarra) at 3pm, Sun August 19.

Brisbane's Fireworks Gallery (678 Ann St, Fortitude Valley), representing "Aboriginal Art and Other Burning Issues" have curated a selection of Aboriginal work reflecting the diversity of landscape and the ideas of being somewhere in IDEAS OF LANDSCAPE. Until Sept 15.



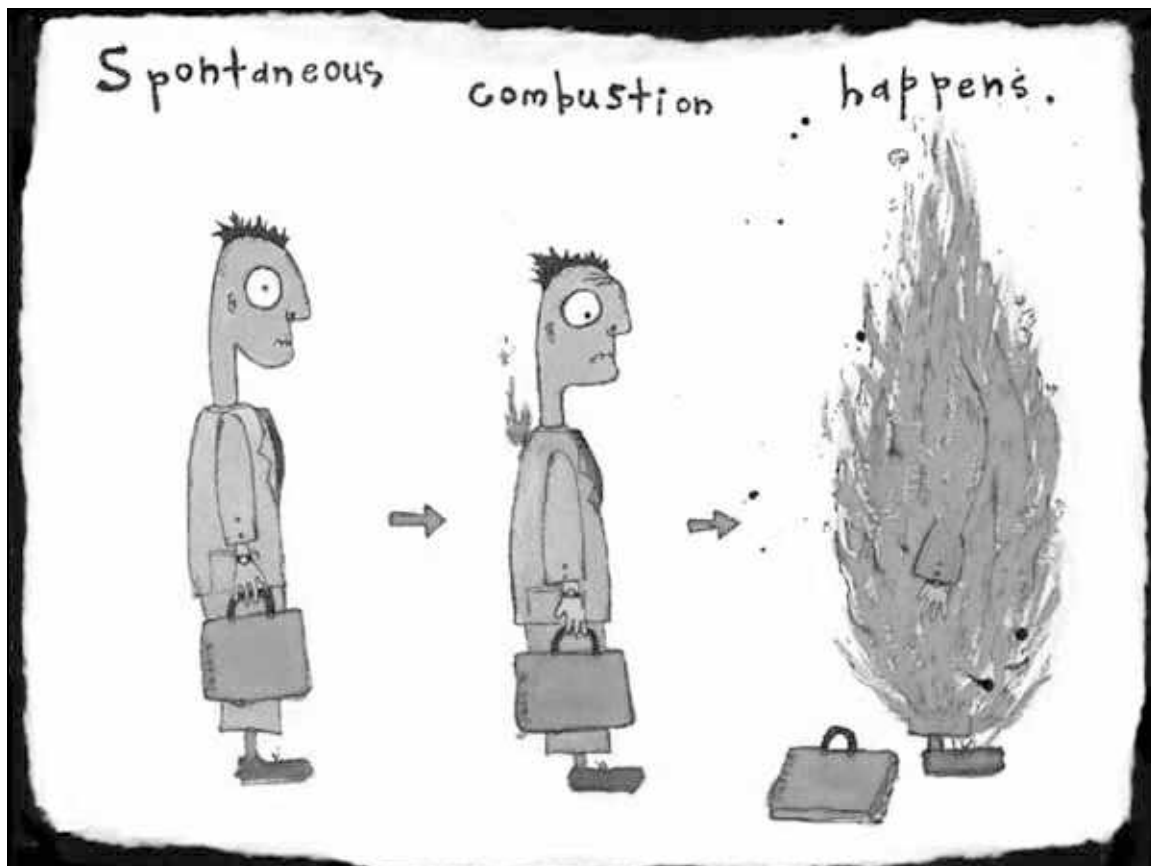
Serving an ice-cold VB upon entry, **NEW AUSTRALIANA** at PICA (Perth Cultural Centre, 51 James St) features documentary photography addressing Aussie popular culture. It presents the reflecting shifting mores and the sheer energy we put into having a good time. From Aug 23 - Sept 26

Challenging various presumptions of documentary photography (Aug 15) & film (Aug 29) are two Contemporary Centre for Photography (205 Johnston St, Fitzroy) lectures and discussions. **DOCUMENTARY FICTIONS** question concepts like objectivity and 'the other' when associated with the practice of photojournalism. Bookings on 03 9417 1549 or info@ccp.org.au

Influential Melbourne punk and new wave record label, **MISSING LINK RECORDS**, has been restarted after a ten year break with plans to release 12 new albums over the next 6 months. Founder Keith Glass released singles by The Birthday Party, The Go-Betweens and The Laughing Clowns amongst others, whilst licensing overseas bands such as The Dead Kennedys and The Residents.

ARTISTS MARKET on the street. Every Saturday 11am-5pm, 284 Smith Street Collingwood, Melbourne. Original artwork on display and for sale. New artists welcome. Call Janusz on (03) 9495 6375 for information.

*Sent articles and news of upcoming arts and cultural events to :
artcult@thepaper.org.au*



Pic by picnick - www.nectarine.com.au/picnick/

Do you want open source with that?

JASON GIBSON

Two recent events in computer software development have drawn attention to the challenge posed by Open Source technologies. Traditional software companies, such as Microsoft, have been forced to adapt to the success and growth of an open source community.

Late last month Microsoft made the source code of its Windows CE 3.0 embedded operating system available to developers in a bid to compete with the "open source" software development model that has become popular in recent years. In Sydney last week at the Open Publish 2001 Conference an open source project designed to produce free software to compete with Microsoft was also launched.

Defined as any freely downloadable software that permits

access to its 'source code', the Open Source community rejects the practice of maintaining technological secrecy. This promotes the free use and development of their codes to foster innovation and diverse applications. Perhaps the most well known example of Open Source software is the Linux operating system kernel that allows users to modify the underlying code to suit their own needs and then re-distribute the altered software - as long as the changes are made available freely to the rest of that community.

Ironically Microsoft has now adopted the open source approach, which it once labelled as a 'threat' and a 'cancer' to the companies' revenue - although only in a limited capacity at this stage. The move suggests that the more traditional and commercial computer companies are slowly coming to grips with the reality of an Open Source, online, cul-

ture.

Championing its own "Shared Source License Open Source" software, Microsoft now allows developers to change its source code, but not to distribute the altered code for commercial purposes. But some developers are concerned that downloading the "shared source" code could lead to legal complications. They fear that Microsoft could accuse Open Source developers of copying Windows code for their own projects, and could use the fact that they downloaded "shared" code as evidence. The code is available on the company's Web site and can be accessed through an evaluation or full version of the Platform Builder development tool.

As the Information Technology, Computing, Media and Telecommunications industries continue to converge the implications of an Open Source culture may be more widely felt.

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Answers to crossword :: metadata 2

Across

1. PROFITEERING, 6. FEW, 8. OUTPUT, 9. OPERATION, 10. EPISTLE, 11. AT, 13<None>. LEAST, 14. TO, 18. EXCITANT, 20. MURDOCH, 22. SPOONING, 24. DRIVE / IN, 25. NATION, 26. ROUGH / IDEA, 27. AT, 29. WORLD / BANK, 30. FARCE.

Down

1. PROTESTERS, 2. OUT / WIT, 3. TOTALITARIAN, 4. RUPERT, 5. NORMAL, 6. FLINGS, 7. WINDS, 12. TEARS / IN / HALF, 15. OX, 16. BINOMIAL, 17. CHANTABLE, 19. TIGER, 20. MEDIUMS, 21. OVEN/DOOR, 23. PLAN / TO, 27. VIA, 28. AW.

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